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(54) Title: HERBICIDAL COMPOSITION

(57) Abstract

Liquid herbicidal composition, containing a grass herbicide that is suspended or dissolved in a non-aqueous liquid phase, a herbicide of the sulfonylurea type that is suspended in a non-aqueous liquid phase, and at least one surface-active substance.

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Herbicidal composition

The present invention relates to a new liquid herbicidal composition, the preparation thereof, as well as the use of the composition in the control of undesired plant growth in crops of cultivated plants.

According to the present invention, a liquid herbicidal composition is proposed, which contains, in addition to customary formulation excipients, (a) at least one grass herbicide that is suspended or dissolved in a non-aqueous liquid phase, (b) at least one herbicide of the sulfonylurea type that is suspended in a non-aqueous liquid phase, and (c) at least one non-ionic or anionic, surface-active substance or a mixture of the non-ionic and anionic substances.

Grass herbicides which may be used in accordance with the invention belong especially to the chemical classes of acetanilides, phenoxypropionic acids, pyrimidinyloxybenzoic acids, phenylsulfonyltriazoles, oxyacetamides, oxazolidindiones, phenylbenzamides, pyrimidinyl thiophthalides and indanes, and are preferably pretilachlor, cyhalofop, pyriminobac, cafenstrole, mefenacet, fentrazamid, oxaziclomefon, pentoxazone, etobenzanid, indanofan as well as epoprodan and the compound of formula I

These grass herbicides may also be used in a mixture together. They exist in dissolved or dispersed form in a non-aqueous liquid phase. The herbicides of the sulfonylurea type are also dispersed in preferably the same non-aqueous liquid phase. These are preferably cinosulfuron, pyrazosulfuron, bensulfuron, azimsulfuron, imazosulfuron, ethoxysulfuron, cyclosulfamuron or halosulfuron or mixtures thereof.

The preferred non-aqueous liquid phases include all vegetable and mineral oils, such as rapeseed oil, soybean oil, sunflower oil, castor oil, pine oil, cottonseed oil, as well as

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derivatives of these oils, for example esters, especially methylesters of these oils, as well as paraffinic and aromatic mineral oils, such as Orchex 796, Shellsol types, Isopar types, aromatic fractions, such as Solvesso 200 and esters such as Exxate 700, as well as mixtures thereof.

The non-ionic and anionic surface-active substances may be conventional, commercially available substances, for example ethoxylated vegetable oils such as Emulsogen EL, ethoxylated fat alcohols such as Genapol O-050, ethoxylated alkylphenols such as Synperonic NP8, ethoxylated polyethylene glycols or polypropylene glycols, e.g. Pluronic types, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol derivatives such as Soprophor 4D384 or Soprophor S/25, oleyl polyglycol ethers such as Genapol U-050, and silicone surfactants such as Silwet L77, as well as dodecylbenzene sulfonates such as Sermul 88A, alcohol ether sulfonates such as Genapol LRO, lignin sulfonates such as Ultrazin NA, phenol sulfonates such as Sipragil GN and polycarboxylates such as Geropon TA72, sulfonated naphthalene/formaldehyde condensates such as Supragil MSN, sulfosuccinates such as Aerosol OT 70 PG, polyacrylate derivatives such as Atlox 4913, maleic acid/olefin copolymers such as Sokolan CP9, alkyl polyglycosides, alkyl succinic acid anhydride derivatives, sorbitan esters, ethoxylated sorbitan esters, alkyl and alkylaryl polyglycol ether phosphoric acid esters and ethoxylated fatty acid esters, as well as taurides such as Hostapon T hk.

The above-mentioned herbicides are described in the Pesticide Manual, Eleventh Edition, British Crop Protection Council, 1997. The compound of formula I is known from EP-A-447506, fentrazamid from British Crop Protection Conference Proceedings, 1997, 67-72, and oxaziclomefon from British Crop Protection Conference Proceedings, 1997, 73-80.

Preferred herbicidal compositions according to the present invention contain as the grass herbicide cyhalofop, pyriminobac, cafenstrole, mefenacet, fentrazamid, oxaziclomefon, pentoxazone, etobenzanid, indanofan, epoprodan, pretilachlor or a compound of formula l

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or mixtures thereof.

As the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type, the compositions according to the invention preferably contain pyrazosulfuron, bensulfuron, azimsulfuron, imazosulfuron, ethoxysulfuron, cyclosulfamuron, halosulfuron or cinosulfuron or mixtures thereof.

The non-aqueous liquid phases to be used are preferably mineral oils or vegetable oils, or also mixtures thereof. The preferred non-ionic, surface-active substances that may be considered are ethoxylated vegetable oil, ethoxylated fat alcohol, ethoxylated alkylphenol, ethoxylated polyethylene glycol and polypropylene glycol and copolymers thereof, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol derivative, oleyl polyglycol ether or silicone surfactant, and the anionic surface-active substance may be a dodecylbenzene sulfonate, sulfosuccinate, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol sulfate or phosphate, alcohol ether sulfonate, lignin sulfonate, ethoxylated phenol sulfonate or polycarboxylate.

A significant composition is one which contains as the grass herbicide pretilachlor or the compound of formula I or a mixture thereof suspended or dissolved in a vegetable oil, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type bensulfuron, pyrazosulfuron, azimsulfuron, imazosulfuron or cinosulfuron or mixtures thereof suspended in a vegetable oil, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of non-ionic and anionic compounds. Of these, preference is given to a composition which contains as the grass herbicide the compound of formula I suspended or dissolved in a vegetable oil, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type cinosulfuron suspended in a vegetable oil, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of non-ionic and anionic compounds. Of these, further preference is given to a composition which contains as the grass herbicide pretilachlor suspended or dissolved in a vegetable oil, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type cinosulfuron suspended in a

vegetable oil, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of non-ionic and anionic compounds.

An especially effective composition contains as the grass herbicide pretilachlor or the compound of formula I or a mixture thereof, preferably the compound of formula I alone, suspended or dissolved in rapeseed oil or rapeseed oil methyl ester or in a mixture thereof, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type bensulfuron suspended in rapeseed oil or rapeseed oil methyl ester or in a mixture thereof, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of a non-ionic with an anionic compound selected from castor oil ethoxylate, dodecylbenzene sulfonate, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol sulfate and oleyl polyglycol ether.

The compositions according to the invention have the great advantage that they may contain the herbicidal active ingredients in high concentrations, and that they remain protected from decomposition over a longer period of time. They also offer the possibility that other oil-soluble or liquid admixtures may be added without problems, such as additives that are suitable for increasing the biological activity, as well as stabilisers such as epoxidised vegetable oils. Surprisingly, the compositions according to the invention show practically no damage to the crops of cultivated plants after their application, despite using organic liquids.

The compositions according to the invention are preferably suitable for the control of weeds in flooded paddy fields. The process is advantageously carried out in such a way that the required amount of composition is mixed with the same amount or up to ten times the amount of water, and applied directly to the already flooded paddy field, or is added to the water flowing in during flooding of the paddy field (so-called splash application). Furthermore, it is also possible, to apply the composition dropwise or in portions simultaneously with the mechanical planting of the rice plants (so-called dip application). Spray application of the composition according to the invention is similarly possible, but requires a higher dilution with water.

The application rates of composition according to the invention may vary within a wide range. It is preferable to use 50 to 2000 g/ha herbicide (grass herbicide plus herbicide of the sulfonylurea type).

The liquid compositions according to the invention contain per litre preferably 30 to 1920 g grass herbicide and 20 to 80 g herbicide of the sulfonylurea type, as well as 50 to 300 g of surface-active substance (anionic plus non-ionic). Normally, 2 - 20 l/ha of the formulations described below by way of example are required for direct application or for splash application. For spray application, this amount is usually 20 - 500 l/ha. The compositions according to the invention may also contain further customary additives, for example inert carriers such as kaolin and chalk, stabilisers, anti-foaming agents, preservatives, viscosity regulators, thickeners such as silicic acid or bentonite, binders, tackifiers, as well as fertilisers or other active ingredients. The compositions are produced in known manner, e.g. by intimately mixing and/or grinding the active ingredients with the formulation excipients and with liquid or solid carriers. Particularly preferred formulations are made up as follows:

Formulation examples

Trade name	function	conc. g/l
	active ingredient	180
Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180
Londax	active ingredient	51
Alkamuls R/81	surface-active	80
	substance	
Sermul EA88	surface-active	50
	substance	
Edenor ME-SU	non-aqueous liquid	20
	phase	
	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
	phase	to make
		up 1 l
	Rifit, Solnet Londax Alkamuls R/81 Sermul EA88	active ingredient Rifit, Solnet active ingredient Londax active ingredient Alkamuls R/81 surface-active substance Sermul EA88 surface-active substance Edenor ME-SU non-aqueous liquid phase non-aqueous liquid

F2:

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Compound of formula I pretilachlor	Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180 180
bensulfuron methyl	Londax	active ingredient	51
ethoxylated tristyrylphenol	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active	20
sulfate		substance	
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	40
		substance	
oleyl polyglycol ether	Genapol U-050	surface-active	90
		substance	
mineral oil	Orchex 796	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11

F3:

Compound of formula I pretilachlor	Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180
bensulfuron methyl ethoxylated tristyrylphenol	Londax	active ingredient	180 51
sulfate	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active substance	20
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active substance	50
castor oil ethoxylate 18EO	Alkamuls R/81	surface-active	80
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Edenor ME-SU	non-aqueous liquid phase	remainder to make up
•		•	1 I

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•	4	

Compound of formula I		active ingredient	180
pretilachlor	Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180
bensulfuron methyl	Londax	active ingredient	51
castor oil derivative	Marlowet LVS	surface-active	150
. ·		substance	
rapeseed oil		non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
, 			11
F5:			
Compound of formula I		active ingredient	180
pretilachlor	Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180
bensulfuron methyl	Londax	active ingredient	30
azimsulfuron	Gulliver	active ingredient	6
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	50
		substance	
castor oil ethoxylate	Sermul EN24	surface-active	50
		substance	
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	20
rapeseed oil		non-aqueous liquid	234
		phase	
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11
F6:			
Compound of formula I		active ingredient	180
pretilachlor	Rifit, Solnet	active ingredient	180

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bensulfuron methyl	Londax	active ingredient	30
azimsulfuron	Gulliver	active ingredient	6
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	65
•		substance	
castor oil ethoxylate	Sernul EN24	surface-active	65
		substance	
tristyrylphenol ethoxylate	Soprophor BSU	surface-active	20
		substance	
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	30
rapeseed oil		non-aqueous liquid	174
		phase	
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11
F7:			
Compound of formula I		active ingredient	180
cinosulfuron	Setoff	active ingredient	24
ethoxylated tristyrylphenol	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active	20
sulfate		substance	20
castor oil ethoxylate	Sermul EN24	surface-active	40
		substance	.0
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	40
		substance	
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	40
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11
			. •
F8:			•

active ingredient

180

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Compound of formula I

		•	
cinosulfuron	Setoff	active ingredient	24
ethoxylated tristyrylphenol	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active	20
sulfate		substance	
castor oil ethoxylate	Sermul EN24	surface-active	65
		substance	,
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	65
		substance	
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	40
aluminium silicate	Attagel 50	inert carrier	30
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11
F9:			
		•	
pretilachlor	Rifit	active ingredient	450
cinosulfuron	Setoff	active ingredient	24
ethoxylated tristyrylphenol	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active	20
sulfate		substance	
castor oil ethoxylate	Sermul EN24	surface-active	60
		substance	
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	60
		substance	
aluminium silicate	Kaolin	inert carrier	250
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	30
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
	·		11
F10:			
pretilachlor	Rifit	active ingredient	450
cinosulfuron	Setoff	active ingredient	24

ethoxylated tristyrylphenol sulfate	Soprophor 4D384	surface-active substance	20
castor oil ethoxylate	Sernul EN24	surface-active	60
		substance	
dodecylbenzene sulfonate	Sermul EA88	surface-active	60
		substance	
aluminium silicate	Kaolin	inert carrier	200
silicic acid	Aerosil 200	thickener	30
rapeseed oil methyl ester	Agrimul 2232 F	non-aqueous liquid	remainder
		phase	to make up
			11

Application examples

Formulation

Formulations F1, F2, F3, F4, F5, F6, F7, F8, F9 and F10 are diluted with water to 5 litres, and introduced directly to a flooded paddy field at an application rate of 5 l/ha (splash application). 22 days after application, control of the weeds Echinochloa, Scirpus and Monochoria is investigated, as well as the phytotoxic activity of the compositions on rice (100% indicates complete control of the weeds or completely withered rice, 0% indicates no control of the weeds or no phytotoxic activity on the rice). This takes place in tests running in parallel: a) upon emergence, b) at the 2.5 leaf stage and c) at the 4.1 leaf stage of Echinochloa. The results obtained in these tests are summarised in the following Table:

romulation		% wee	d control	
		% phytotoxic activity		
		a)	b)	c)
F1	rice	0	5	11
	Echinochloa	99	96	95
	Scirpus	98	92	94
	Monochoria	100	95	95
F2	rice	0	7	9
	Echinochloa	99	98	92

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	Scirpus	98	94
	Monochoria	100	94
F3	rice	3	8
	Echinochloa	100	95
•	Scirpus	99	90
	Monochoria	100	89
•	Worldon on	100	
		% weed contro	ol
Formulation		% phytotoxic a	
		a)	b)
F5	rice	0	
	Echinochloa	100	70
	Scirpus	90	80
	Monochoria	95	90
F6	rice	0	0
	Echinochloa	100	80
	Scirpus	90	80
	Monochoria	98	90
F7	rice	0	0
	Echinochloa	98	70
	Scirpus	. 70	80
	Monochoria	90	90
F8	rice	0	0
	Echinochloa	98	70
	Scirpus	70	90
	Monochoria	95	90
F9	rice	. · · 0	0
	Echinochloa	100	20
	Scirpus	98	90
	Monochoria	100	95
F10	rice	0	0
	Echinochloa	100	10

95

90

Scirpus

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Monochoria 100 90

The same results are obtained if these formulations are diluted with water, e.g. to 2 - 500 l.

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What is claimed is:

- 1. Liquid herbicidal composition, containing
- (a) at least one grass herbicide that is suspended or dissolved in a non-aqueous liquid phase
- (b) at least one herbicide of the sulfonylurea type that is suspended in a non-aqueous liquid phase, and
- (c) at least one non-ionic or anionic, surface-active substance or a mixture of the non-ionic and anionic surface-active substances
- 2. Composition according to claim 1, containing as the grass herbicide cyhalofop, pyriminobac, cafenstrole, mefenacet, fentrazamid, oxaziclomefon, pentoxazone, etobenzanid, indanofan, epoprodan, pretilachlor or a compound of formula I

or a mixture thereof.

- 3. Composition according to claim 1, containing as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type pyrazosulfuron, bensulfuron, azimsulfuron, imazosulfuron, ethoxysulfuron, cyclosulfamuron, halosulfuron or cinosulfuron or a mixture thereof.
- 4. Composition according to claim 1, containing as non-aqueous liquid phase a vegetable or mineral oil or a mixture of these oils.
- 5. Composition according to claim 1, containing as the non-ionic, surface-active substance, an ethoxylated vegetable oil, ethoxylated fat alcohol, ethoxylated alkylphenol, ethoxylated polyethylene glycol or propylene glycol or copolymers thereof, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol derivative, oleyl polyglycol ether or silicone surfactant, or as the anionic surface-active

substance, a dodecylbenzene sulfonate, sulfosuccinate, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol sulfate or phosphate, alcohol ether sulfonate, lignin sulfonate, ethoxylated phenol sulfate or polycarboxylate or a mixture of these non-ionic and anionic, surface-active compounds.

- 6. Composition according to claim 1, containing as the grass herbicide pretilachlor or the compound of formula I or a mixture thereof suspended or dissolved in a vegetable oil, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type bensulfuron, pyrazosulfuron, azimsulfuron, imazosulfuron or cinosulfuron or mixtures thereof suspended in a vegetable oil, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of non-ionic and anionic compounds.
- 7. Composition according to claim 6, containing as the grass herbicide the compound of formula I and as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type cinosulfuron.
- 8. Composition according to claim 6, containing as the grass herbicide pretilachlor and as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type cinosulfuron.
- 9. Composition according to claim 6, containing as the grass herbicide pretilachlor or the compound of formula I or a mixture thereof, suspended or dissolved in rapeseed oil or rapeseed oil methyl ester or in a mixture thereof, as the herbicide of the sulfonylurea type bensulfuron suspended in rapeseed oil or rapeseed oil methyl ester or in a mixture thereof, and as the surface-active substance a mixture of a non-ionic with an anionic compound selected from castor oil ethoxylate, dodecylbenzene sulfonate, ethoxylated tristyrylphenol sulfate and oleyl polyglycol ether.
- 10. Composition according to claim 9, containing as the grass herbicide the compound of formula I.
- 11. Use of the liquid herbicidal composition according to claim 1 in the control of undesired plant growth in crops of cultivated plants.
- 12. Use according to claim 11 for the control of undesired plant growth in rice crops by means of direct application of the composition to already flooded paddy fields, to paddy fields that are just being flooded, or during planting of the rice plants.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter mail Application No PCT/EP 99/08359

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 A01N47/36 A01N25/04						
According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classifica-	edion and IPC				
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IPC 7	commentation searched (classification system followed by classification A01N	on symbols)				
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Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	auch documents are included in the tields se	ear che d			
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the International search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search terms used)			
C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the rel	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
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Information on patent family members

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